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English only

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**Commission on Crime Prevention  
and Criminal Justice****Twenty-eighth session**

Vienna, 20–24 May 2019

Items 3 and 10 of the provisional agenda\*

**General Debate****Contributions by the Commission to the work of the  
Economic and Social Council, in line with General  
Assembly resolution 68/1,<sup>1</sup> including follow-up to  
and review and implementation of the 2030 Agenda  
for Sustainable Development****Main messages of the voluntary national reviews relevant to  
the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 16<sup>\*\*</sup>**

The resolution entitled “Enhancing the role of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, negotiated by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ) in May 2018, was adopted by the General Assembly on 17 December 2018 ([A/RES/73/183](#)).

The resolution, inter alia, encouraged Member States to include information on the implementation of Goal 16 in their voluntary national reviews (VNRs) in 2019, and to share relevant information that will be contained in the 2019 VNRs, as well as relevant information that was contained in the VNRs of 2016, 2017 and 2018 with the Commission during its 28th session, including in the context of the general debate.<sup>2</sup>

The aim is to contribute, within the CCPCJ’s mandate, to the advancement of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular Goal 16<sup>3</sup>, which will be under in-depth review by the meeting of the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council in July 2019. The meeting will be followed by the HLPF meeting convened under the auspices of the General Assembly in September 2019.

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\* [E/CN.15/2019/1](#).

<sup>1</sup> As revised by [A/RES/72/305](#).

<sup>\*\*</sup> This document has not been edited.

<sup>2</sup> [A/RES/73/183](#), OP 5

<sup>3</sup> SDG 16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.



The paper consists of two parts:

## **I. Main messages of the voluntary national reviews submitted by Member States**

Part 1 includes information on the voluntary national reviews, including the main messages relevant to Goal 16, that were submitted by Member States pursuant to A/RES/73/183. By 13 May 2019, contributions were received from Czechia and Dominican Republic, as reflected in this conference room paper.

## **II. Compilation of excerpts of main messages of the voluntary national reviews that are relevant to the implementation of Goal 16**

Part 2 includes a compilation prepared by the Secretariat of those main messages of the reviews of 2016, 2017 and 2018 that are publicly available and contain a reference to the implementation of Goal 16.<sup>4</sup>

The information contained in this paper is non-exhaustive and the overview can be updated as more information becomes available, particularly regarding messages prepared for the 2019 reviews.

## **I. Main messages of the voluntary national reviews submitted by Member States**

### **A. Czechia<sup>5</sup>**

#### **Introduction**

Czechia actively supported the process of negotiation of the ambitious and transformative *2030 Agenda* and welcomed its adoption at the United Nations summit in September 2015. As a co-chair (since July 2016) and later on as a chair (since July 2017 until July 2018) of the United Nations Economic and Social Council, Czechia eagerly accepted the invitation of the United Nations Secretary-General to participate in the 2017 Voluntary National Reviews on the *2030 Agenda* and share its experience with the national implementation process.

Czechia's Voluntary National Review provided information on the process of implementing the *2030 Agenda* and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at the national level. It focused mainly on outlining the national objectives and vision to be achieved by the year 2030. In addition, it also analysed the starting points for implementation in six key areas, including the Good Governance key area which covers a.o. the main part of the SDG 16. Despite shortcomings in the availability of data, the Voluntary National Review provided an important opportunity to re-assess national sustainable development priorities in relation to the SDGs and critically evaluate the current state of implementation.

The process of implementation at the national level has been led by the Office of the Government of Czechia and supported by the Government Council for Sustainable Development (GCSD). In order to reflect upon the principles, goals and targets of the *2030 Agenda*, the Government decided to review the Strategic Framework for Sustainable Development adopted in 2010. The final document, titled as *Czech Republic 2030*, therefore not only builds on the previous strategy, but also sets national priorities in SDGs and serves as the main implementation platform of the *2030 Agenda* in Czechia. *Czech Republic 2030* has been adopted by the Government and came into effect in April 2017.

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<sup>4</sup> Part 2 reflects only main messages that were publicly available in English language on the website of the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development at the time this paper was drafted (<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/vnrs/>).

<sup>5</sup> As received per note verbale, dated 16 April 2019.

*Czech Republic 2030* is a strategic framework representing the country's long-term vision and setting its direction for the next thirteen years. Its objective is to improve the wellbeing of citizens and all the people on the planet and to promote development which is sustainable in social, economic and environmental terms. The strategic framework *Czech Republic 2030* addresses these issues by applying a cluster approach and covering the full range of topics in six key areas. Besides the social (People and Society), economic (Economy) and environmental (Resilient Ecosystems) pillars represented under the respective key areas, the framework also covers the role of Regions and Municipalities, Global Development and Good Governance.

Below we provide information on the Good Governance key area which is the most relevant to the SDG 16.

### **Good governance**

Sustainable development cannot be successfully implemented without robust institutions which are able to act coherently and make appropriate policies. Achievement of the SDG 16 is therefore a vital precondition for success in the implementation of all other goals and targets. The key area Good Governance mainly addresses the Peace category (SDG 16), with a special focus on challenges related to the transparency, accountability and effectiveness of public institutions. However, emphasis is also placed on equality (SDGs 5 and 10) and Partnership (SDG 17) to ensure that no one is left behind.

### **Our vision for 2030**

Czechia aims at achieving a robust and resilient governance structure that is democratic and efficient in the long-term. An enabling environment will be created in order to encourage citizens' participation in policy-making processes and building partnerships with all the relevant stakeholders. Participatory and deliberative democracy tools will be used in order to achieve these objectives.

To strengthen democracy, constant attention will be paid not only to elections (ensuring equality under electoral law, availability of polling stations, etc.) and the functioning and transparency of political parties, but also to promoting greater representation of women in decision-making positions. Direct citizens' participation in policy-making (e.g. through deliberative mini-publics, deliberative polls and participatory budgeting) will be strongly encouraged. Czechia will also strive to eliminate all legislative and technical obstacles to good representation, participation and deliberation. Fulfilling the partnership principle, however, must respect the responsibility of the public administration for the final decision. Economic and social inequalities have a considerable impact on the level and form of representation and participation.

### **Knowledge, innovations and partnerships for better policies**

Targets 16.3 and 16.9 of SDG 16 - *Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels* have been already met or are close to their desired values.

In addition to the broad participation and involvement of stakeholders in the preparation of the document itself, *Czech Republic 2030* also sets 5 strategic goals and a number of specific targets aiming to improve access to information for policy-makers in order to produce knowledge- and evidence-based policies; policy coherence for sustainable development in all areas; and supporting innovation and improving the quality of governance from the point of view of the recipients of public policies.

Since 2007, the Regulatory Impact Assessment has also been a formal part of the legislative process and has been transferred to Government Office in 2011 in order to

further strengthen its impact. Furthermore, Czechia will create an environment facilitating participation by extending citizens' access to information and promoting deliberative skills.

Public policies will be coherent in relation to the SDGs and coordinated both vertically and horizontally. Their quality will be improved through evidence-based or evidence-informed decisions, better ex-ante impact assessments and enhanced ex-post evaluations. All phases of the policy-making cycle will be transparent and accountable. The security and resilience of the governance structure will be also strengthened through the development of risk and disaster management policies, including for prediction and response to natural and man-made crises.

Special emphasis will be placed on the systemic ability to learn and adopt innovative approaches, including in terms of democratic governance and long-term effectiveness. Innovations will be enabled and supported through the creation of solid institutional backup based on systemic thinking, foresight and the principles of behavioural insight.

### **Our starting point**

According to global indicators in this key area, Czechia's position is relatively high in global terms and close to the OECD average, although it is still far from the best scores achieved by OECD members. However, measuring the quality of governance is not an easy task and the explanatory power of existing global indicators and indexes has significant limits.

### **Building efficient, inclusive and accountable institutions**

Despite improvements in recent years, the results are still far from the 2030 desirable targets set for the efficiency, accountability and transparency of public institutions (target 16.6) and consequently also for corruption and bribery (target 16.5). The confidence in national institutions index was 51 per cent in 2014 which is relatively low compared to the OECD average and far behind countries such as Luxembourg, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland. Similar results can be seen for participation, gender balance in leadership positions and access to information to citizens (targets 16.7 and 16.10).

Czechia is a liberal democracy with presidential, parliamentary, European, regional and municipal elections. The transparency of its political parties and elections is supported by legislation, including acts on local and regional referendums. The government is obliged to publish draft legislation in order to inform citizens and deliberative processes can take place at the drafting stage. Many municipalities set their citizens' participation strategies under Local Agenda 21 and, for example, legislation on environmental impact assessment enables citizens to be involved in local urban planning.

Nevertheless, voter turnout in all types of elections has gradually declined since the early 1990s. The number of members of political parties is also gradually decreasing and only 50 per cent of citizens consider them a necessary feature of democracy. Furthermore, a relatively small percentage of citizens believe that elections are an effective way to influence the politics.

The vertical nature of public management is resulting in a strong sectoral focus but a weaker ability to address complex and cross-sectoral issues. Policy coherence (particularly cross-sectoral policy impact assessment) and strategic long-term planning are still relatively weak.

Despite the challenges, there is a strong will for improvement supported by policies adopted in recent years. The State Service Act which was adopted and implemented in 2014 should stabilize the performance of central government and create an environment facilitating long-term activities. Since 2011, the Regulatory Impact Assessment and other sectoral assessments have been a formal part of the legislative

process at the Government level and the inclusivity, efficiency and accountability of governance has been supported by many other acts and cross-sectoral strategies.

### **Next steps towards the SDGs**

The strategic framework *Czech Republic 2030*, adopted by the Government in April 2017, serves as an overarching framework for all national, regional and local policies. In addition, the process of its implementation and the further work of the Government Council for Sustainable Development serve as transfer mechanisms for the Czech international commitments and responsibilities.

The adoption of *Czech Republic 2030* is followed by the preparation of its implementation plan. The document establishes adequate mechanisms ensuring compliance between the strategic and specific goals of *Czech Republic 2030* and the objectives of other sectoral strategies, concepts, programs and measures. The main tool for tracking the compatibility of the goals at different levels will be the regularly updated national Database of Strategies which is an online platform linking goals and targets of various strategies and which will be also linked with data sources of indicators.

Alignment with the *2030 Agenda* and other international sustainable development commitments (e.g. goals under Europe 2020 and the European Union Sustainable Development Strategy) will be also regularly assessed. The framework will adjust to global development and any changes in key areas that may occur in the future and which will be analysed by applying methods of strategic foresight. It will be therefore regularly reviewed, while the minimum interval for revision has been defined as every five years.

### **Promoting SDGs and sustainability**

The achievement of the goals under the *Czech Republic 2030* will also be supported by voluntary commitments which will allow a wide range of stakeholders to participate in the implementation process. This approach has the potential to contribute to the following objectives: to involve relevant stakeholders in the process of implementing the national sustainable development strategy and *2030 Agenda*; to create public ownership of both national and global sustainable development goals; to raise awareness of the SDGs; to encourage NGOs, private enterprises, public institutions and individuals to set their own voluntary commitments and stay accountable to their fulfilment; and to monitor progress made by other stakeholders.

## **B. Dominican Republic (2018)<sup>6</sup>**

### **The appropriation of the 2030 Agenda**

The Dominican Republic is purposefully moving forward to implement the 2030 Agenda. During the last two years, it has made significant efforts towards combining and aligning the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) with the National Development Strategy (NDS) and other planning instruments, prioritizing objectives based on the country's context, as well as in the exploration of an optimal intervention architecture to accelerate progress.

### **The purposes and the process to elaborate the VNR**

The Dominican Republic's VNR has three purposes:

First, since it is the first report presented, it seeks to account for the evolution and the status of each of the SDGs through the available indicators. In that sense, it is about establishing baselines for the 2030 Agenda in the country.

<sup>6</sup> As received per note verbale dated 7 May 2019.

Second, to present the experience of the Dominican Republic in grounding the 2030 Agenda, based on the establishment of the national articulation mechanism for the achievement of the SDGs from a participatory perspective and alignment of the 2030 Agenda with national priorities and the implementation of comprehensive policies with vast content in favour of the SDGs.

Third, register efforts and advances in the analysis, at the national level, around optimal strategies to accelerate the achievement of the 2030 Agenda. This implies offering an articulated perspective and of synergic interdependence between policies and the SDGs, providing a balance of the national programmatic offer, and identifying combinations of interventions necessary to advance achievements.

With this, we seek to push the frontier of the current analysis – a step beyond knowing the situation – deepening the reflection regarding main and intermediate objectives that should be prioritized in light of the integral nature of the Agenda and the interrelation between the objectives.

***The report relies on the following key material:***

- i. National reports on achievements and challenges pending during the MDG era;
- ii. Official indicators available for each of the SDGs or proxy indicators, with the highest level of disaggregation available, in terms of territories, age group, sex, and population groups in a particular situation;
- iii. Qualitative information on policies and interventions relevant to the 2030 Agenda from public institutions; and
- iv. Results of face-to-face consultations with governmental actors, civil society, the private sector, academia, local governments, the Legislative Branch, and agencies of the United Nations System regarding central findings on the status and possibilities for integrating the SDGs into the public agenda, apparent obstacles, best practices, and lessons learned.

*The status of SDGs and their indicators*

The Dominican Republic can show meaningful progress towards compliance with the 2030 Agenda. At the same time, it faces numerous challenges in overcoming persistent economic, social, environmental, institutional, and policy gaps.

SDG 16. *The construction of solid and inclusive institutions, improving the public access to and trust in justice and achieving a more transparent State is one of the great challenges of the Dominican society.* The evidence indicates that, in the long term, there has been an increase in the rate of homicides and other crimes. Also, there is a high incidence of physical and psychological abuse of girls and boys, together with a high prevalence of sexual exploitation of girls and adolescents. 60 per cent of the inmates have not received a sentence, which shows the existence of important barriers to access to justice, and there is a lack of trust in the polices and other institutions related to justice. In addition, more than 3 per cent of the population and 12 per cent of children under 5 years of age lack identity, particularly affecting the population of the poorest households and provinces.

*There has been significant progress in achieving a more transparent State, especially in terms of budgetary management and public procurement.* However, the path to reach satisfactory levels of transparency and effectiveness is still long. Improvements in budgetary management are highlighted from the monitoring of protected programs, access to information on the budgetary allocation to citizen service, among others. The country has a transactional portal for public procurement strengthened and mechanism for the inclusion of SMEs in the registry of state suppliers, especially companies led by women.

## II. Compilation of excerpts of main messages of the voluntary national reviews that are relevant to the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 16<sup>7</sup>

Country/ review year	Main messages
Albania 2018	<p>The success of the European Integration process, culminating with the European Commission’s unconditional recommendation in April 2018 to open accession talks with Albania, has been guided by the progress and completion of many complex and interrelated reforms, among which five areas are identified as priorities in this process:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. public administration reform, stable institutions and a modern, professional and depoliticized civil service;</li> <li>2. strengthening the independence, efficiency and accountability of judicial institutions;</li> <li>3. increasing the fight against corruption;</li> <li>4. increasing the fight against organized crime;</li> <li>5. ensuring the protection of human rights, including property rights.</li> </ol> <p>The report integrates the progress achieved through two important transformational processes, the justice sector reform – designed to strengthen the judiciary system, and the urban renaissance program – aimed at transforming and promoting important features of Albania, with a great focus on upgrading the development centres across the country.</p> <p>The Voluntary National Review elaborates on Albania’s people centred efforts in leaving no one behind, by focusing on two important aspect of the theme, relevant to building resilient societies: women empowerment and social inclusion.</p> <p><a href="https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/18861Key_messages_VNR__Albania_revised_v2_1.pdf">https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/18861Key_messages_VNR__Albania_revised_v2_1.pdf</a></p>
Australia 2018	<p>Core to the Australian understanding of the SDGs is the Australian value of a “fair go”. Like “leaving no one behind”, it is a call to action for fairness, justice and equality of opportunity.</p> <p>Australia is a constitutional, democratic federation of states and territories sharing governance and regulatory responsibilities with the national level of Government. Local governments have a vital role in local services and regulation. There is coordination and collaboration between all levels of government, supported by a range of existing institutions and processes that ensure accountability and transparency.</p> <p>But we continue to grapple with difficult long-standing policy challenges, such as improving health, economic, justice and well-being outcomes for Australia’s Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. And we will need to address ongoing or evolving ones, such as assisting workers through transitions related to technological and industrial change.</p> <p><a href="https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/20473AUSTRALIA_VNR_2018_Key_Messages.pdf">https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/20473AUSTRALIA_VNR_2018_Key_Messages.pdf</a></p>

<sup>7</sup> As already mentioned abo Part 2 reflects only main messages that were publicly available in English language on the website of the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development at the time this paper was drafted (<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/vnrs/>).

Bahrain 2018	<p>The Constitution of Bahrain and public policies guarantee universal access to basic services. Public and civil society-led programs provide support to abused women, persons with disabilities, and those in need. Such programs also extend to migrant workers to safeguard their rights, provide health insurance and shelter, protect against arbitrary dismissal, and combat human trafficking. The new flexible work program eliminates the sponsorship scheme to allows workers to work freely.</p> <p>Bahrain faces these challenges: <i>[among other]</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthening the role of evidence-based statistics and policy making to increase transparency and improve the public service and SDG delivery.</li> <li>• Addressing extremism, terrorism, and conflicts to maintain unity and preserve national gains.</li> </ul> <p><a href="https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/19354Bahrain_Key_Messages_Final_arabic_and_english.pdf">https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/19354Bahrain_Key_Messages_Final_arabic_and_english.pdf</a></p>
Belarus 2017	<p>Belarus views the incorporation of the Goals into national, sectoral and regional development strategies, programmes and plans as an important factor in the implementation at the national level of the 2030 Agenda. These strategies, programmes and plans specify the work to be carried out by the Government and central and local authorities, improvements to be made to legislation and the distribution of budget resources.</p> <p><a href="https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=440&amp;menu=3170">https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=440&amp;menu=3170</a></p>
Belgium 2017	<p>Belgium has intensified reflections on the best way to operationalize the SDGs within government departments; allowed progress in the work on a Belgian SDG indicator framework; emphasized the need to ensure all relevant actors are truly on board in a ‘whole of government’ comprehensive approach coherently combining development, defence, diplomacy and rule of law instruments abroad; and it has given a renewed impulse in terms of collaboration with civil society stakeholders and private sector.</p> <p>NVR findings underscore the commitment of the Belgian authorities to implementing the SDGs as a whole, taking on board key principles such as leaving no-one behind, adopting a rights-based approach and mainstreaming gender throughout the SDGs... The NVR also highlights the commitment of civil society organizations and private sector players, who are launching a broad range of actions and are often setting up new umbrella organizations or revitalizing and adapting existing ones.</p> <p>Given the challenges related to undertaking a fully-fledged review of progress and impact covering the full breadth and depth of this agenda, this first edition of the Belgian NVR should be considered primarily as a stocktaking exercise, a starting point providing us with a (partial) baseline and a benchmark: for guiding further action, for future monitoring of progress, and for strengthening accountability towards the Belgian population and parliaments.</p> <p><a href="https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/14978Belgium.pdf">https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/14978Belgium.pdf</a></p>
Botswana 2017	<p>Given the importance of SDGs, the country established a National Steering Committee (NSC). The NSC drives policy agenda and is co-chaired by the Government and the United Nations. Its membership is derived from Government, Private sector, Development Partners, Youth Groups, National Assembly, Ntlo ya Dikgosi (formerly House of Chiefs), Civil Society Organizations, Trade Unions and other Non-State Actors.</p> <p>At a technical level the NSC is assisted by a Technical Task Force (TTF) whose membership is also multi-sectoral. These committees are serviced by SDGs</p>

	<p>Secretariat in the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development (MFED) supported by the United Nations.</p> <p>The SDG rollout process will be further supported by four Thematic Working Groups (TWGs). These are (i) Economy and Employment, (ii) Social Upliftment, (iii) Sustainable Environment, and (iv) Governance, Safety and Security. Each TWG comprises a cluster of related sectors whose membership is derived from state and non-state actors</p> <p><a href="https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/15146Botswana.pdf">https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/15146Botswana.pdf</a></p>
Cabo Verde 2018	<p>Investments in good governance, gender equality and human rights, reproductive health and the development of human capital have been key for Cabo Verde's development achievement.</p> <p><a href="https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/18849Cabo_Verde_ENGLISH_VERSION_MAIN_MESSAGE_18_may_2018_Final2.pdf">https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/18849Cabo_Verde_ENGLISH_VERSION_MAIN_MESSAGE_18_may_2018_Final2.pdf</a></p>
Canada 2018	<p>Indigenous peoples, women, youth and the elderly, the LGBTQ2 community, newcomers to Canada, and persons with disabilities are more likely to face poverty, discrimination, and social exclusion.</p> <p>Canada is responding to these challenges through concrete actions to reduce poverty, advance gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, narrow the socio-economic gaps that exist between different groups, foster inclusion and celebrate diversity, and improve equality of opportunity for all.</p> <p>Across Canada, governments, organizations and individuals are already answering the 2030 Agenda's call to action and convening new partnerships to respond in new ways to the challenges we collectively face. Going forward, the Government of Canada will strengthen efforts to bring together all segments of society in Canada around the SDGs, including in the development of the national strategy. Canada will also continue to work with its domestic and international partners to foster new and innovative solutions to realize this historic and transformative Agenda.</p> <p><a href="https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/19029CANADA_SGD EEDRMS8338070v8VNR_Synopsis.pdf">https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/19029CANADA_SGD EEDRMS8338070v8VNR_Synopsis.pdf</a></p>
Chile 2017	<p>Chile faces significant long-term challenges: reaching sustainable and inclusive development; reducing poverty and inequality; addressing climate change; and strengthening democratic institutions.</p> <p>These efforts, together with the development of strong institutions focused on indigenous peoples and youth, aim to reduce inequalities, protect rights and strengthen inclusion.</p> <p>Consequently, comprehensive and cross-cutting efforts are required to protect, strengthen the capacities and guarantee the rights of vulnerable groups — women, youth, indigenous peoples, immigrants, the elderly, persons with disabilities and homeless people — while reducing gender and geographical gaps.</p> <p>Access to justice and the strengthening of institutions, democracy and citizen participation are prerequisites for inclusive and sustainable development. In that connection, the Probity and Transparency Agenda reflects the commitment of Chile to improving the quality of public policy and activities.</p> <p><a href="https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=336&amp;menu=3170">https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=336&amp;menu=3170</a></p>

China 2016	<p>9 key areas should be prioritized in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. These areas are [amongst others]:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Improving social security and social services to ensure equal access to basic public services.</li> <li>2. Safeguarding equity and social justice to improve people’s well-being and promoting all-round human development.</li> <li>3. Improving national governance and ensuring economic and social development in line with the rule of law.</li> </ol> <p>The international community needs to provide sound support from five dimensions including [amongst others]:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Strengthening capacity-building of countries so as to improve institution building, increase public resources, and generate internal growth momentum.</li> <li>2. Engaging with all stakeholders and working towards a more equitable and balanced global partnership for development.</li> </ol> <p><a href="https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/10744ChinasNationalActionsonthe2030Agenda%20(final).pdf">https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/10744ChinasNationalActionsonthe2030Agenda%20(final).pdf</a></p>
Cyprus 2017	<p>Legislation or other policies already exist for most SDGs and targets, through national and European strategies. Moreover, the structural and institutional reforms promoted, especially in the public sector, the health system and other sectors, aspire to lead breakthrough systemic transformations, aiming at creating employment and enhanced governance, transparency, competitiveness, as well as more efficient service provision to citizens, including with the further development of e-government.</p> <p>[...] as well as the efforts made towards combating human trafficking, by effectively enforcing new legislation and expanding the role and competences of the Police Anti-Trafficking Bureau. On the international sphere, Cyprus actively promotes international cooperation on issues such as the protection of cultural property and regional cooperation for the protection from marine pollution. Concerning progress foreseen, there has been an upward trend in the use of renewable sources of energy, while steps are being taken towards a more sustainable tourism product.</p> <p><a href="https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/15911Cyprus_Main_Message_HLPF_2017.pdf">https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/15911Cyprus_Main_Message_HLPF_2017.pdf</a></p>
Czechia 2017	<p>The division into six key areas (People and Society, Economy, Resilient Ecosystems, Regions and Municipalities, Global Development and Good Governance).</p> <p>The key area Good Governance mainly addresses the Peace category of the 2030 Agenda (SDG 16) with the special focus on challenges related to transparency, accountability and effectiveness of public institutions. However, emphasis is also placed on equality (SDG 5 and 10) and Partnership (SDG 17) ensuring that no one is left behind.</p> <p>[...] the goals of <i>Czech Republic 2030</i> will also be supported by the voluntary commitments framework, which will allow civil society, private sector and other actors and individuals to participate in the implementation and encourage partnerships between various sectors of the society.</p> <p><a href="https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/14990Czech%20Republic.pdf">https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/14990Czech%20Republic.pdf</a></p>

<p>Dominican Republic 2018</p>	<p>There has been progress towards a transparent state, but the road to satisfactory levels of transparency, institutionality and justice is still long. Rates of crimes and homicides have increased in recent years. Indicators show barriers to access to justice and evidence of corruption and distrust in institutions.</p> <p>Efforts are being made to identify objectives and policies that promote synergies and accelerate the advancement of the 2030 Agenda through five objectives: (1) Reducing multidimensional poverty, (2) More competitiveness and decent jobs, (3) Promoting sustainable production and consumption. (4) Achieve resilient populations to climate change and other risks, and (5) Achieve a solid and inclusive State institutionality.</p> <p><a href="https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/19186DOMINICAN_REPUBLIC_Main_Messages_VNR_2018_EN.pdf">https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/19186DOMINICAN_REPUBLIC_Main_Messages_VNR_2018_EN.pdf</a></p>
<p>Egypt 2016</p>	<p>Egypt to possess a competitive, balanced and diversified economy, dependent on innovation and knowledge, based on justice, social integrity and participation, in a balanced and diversified ecological collaboration system, investing the ingenuity of place and human capital to achieve sustainable development and to improve Egyptians' quality of life, in a state-driven process, with the full participation of all relevant stakeholders.</p> <p>The new constitution marks significant improvement compared to the previous one in securing citizens' rights to education, health, protection, and development. It contains articles on strengthening governance, equality, and social justices. It is a modern constitution that ensures the constitutional rights of citizens, while guaranteeing that no one is left behind.</p> <p>Another successful example of regional cooperation is Cairo Centre for Conflict Resolution and Peacekeeping in Africa (CCCPA) which is at the forefront of national, regional and international efforts to provide "African Solutions to African Problems", focusing on peacekeeping, peacebuilding, and crisis management in post-conflict situations.</p> <p><a href="https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=83&amp;menu=3170">https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=83&amp;menu=3170</a></p>
<p>Egypt 2018</p>	<p>Egypt is mindful of the vulnerable groups who are likely more adversely affected by stabilization and reform programs. In order not to leave anyone behind, the Government of Egypt has scaled up its social protection programs and has improved their target mechanisms. In addition, the Government of Egypt is allocating more resources to the more deprived areas to provide better quality of public services and infrastructure.</p> <p><a href="https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/18853EGYPT_VNR_2018_Key_messages1752018Final.pdf">https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/18853EGYPT_VNR_2018_Key_messages1752018Final.pdf</a></p>
<p>El Salvador 2017</p>	<p>El Salvador has prioritized nine Goals, namely, Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 13, 16 and 17; as well as 29 targets from the other Goals.</p> <p>The Government of El Salvador is promoting a process of dialogue with various actors with a view to establishing long-term development agreements that address slow economic growth, the weakness of public finances and the problems of violence and crime.</p> <p>The 2030 Agenda is characterized by its comprehensive and inclusive nature and its aim of leaving no one behind. The Government of El Salvador has considered defining a long-term governance framework through a national sustainable development council bringing together the actors of national life, as a platform for</p>

	<p>dialogue and the construction of agreements on development policies. This body will play a leading role in the long-term implementation of the 2030 Agenda.</p> <p><a href="https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=475&amp;menu=3170">https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=475&amp;menu=3170</a></p>
Estonia 2016	<p>The priorities of Estonian development cooperation are: (1) supporting the quality of education, (2) supporting the development of health care, (3) guaranteeing peace and stability, (4) supporting the development of democracy, introduction of good governance practices and guaranteeing human rights, (5) promoting economic development, (6) fostering environmentally friendly development, (7) raising the awareness of the Estonian public, particularly younger people, concerning development cooperation and humanitarian aid, as well as global development problems.</p> <p><a href="https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=68&amp;menu=3170">https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=68&amp;menu=3170</a></p>
Finland 2016	<p>One of the fundamental objectives in Finland since the 1992 Rio Conference has been to integrate the three dimensions of sustainable development, aiming at linking economic prosperity, social justice and a good state of the environment in a mutually reinforcing way.</p> <p>Finland will promote peace, equality, non-discrimination and justice nationally and internationally.</p> <p><a href="https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=64&amp;menu=3170">https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=64&amp;menu=3170</a></p>
France 2016	<p>France is a well-established democracy based on a robust political and legal system, which offers sound guarantees to French citizens and foreign nationals to effectively assert their rights. Human rights and equality of all citizens before the law, without distinction of gender, race or religion are written into the French Constitution and their respect guaranteed by the courts.</p> <p>This framework has been improved in recent years with the introduction of independent administrative authorities, scaled-up court supervision, especially when public and individual freedoms are in issue, and legislative measures such as legalising same-sex marriage.</p> <p>France has also taken new measures to improve the transparency of political life, streamline administrative formalities and deepen democratic tools, based especially on the use of digital means (public consultations, consensus conferences and local referendums). Every year, the “environmental conference” thus mobilizes the whole government to find responses to the demands of civil society representatives including local governments, unions, businesses and NGOs.</p> <p>France considers that the involvement of civil society, the private sector and the general public is key to the success of the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and, more generally, to public policymaking. It considers that deepening democracy is one of the best responses to the rise of all forms of radicalism and exclusion.</p> <p><a href="https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=74&amp;menu=3170">https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=74&amp;menu=3170</a></p>
Germany 2016	<p>Promoting good governance and gender equality are cross-cutting tasks that are also an important element in the bilateral and multilateral dialogue on development policy. In line with the new Global Partnership for Sustainable</p>

	<p>Development, the German government is aiming to cooperate with its partners on an equal footing and to continually improve efficiency and effectiveness.</p> <p><a href="https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=65&amp;menu=3170">https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=65&amp;menu=3170</a></p>
Greece 2018	<p>The exercise resulted in the endorsement of eight National Priorities for adapting the 17 SDGs to national needs and circumstances, also in line with the recently adopted National Growth Strategy: [among which]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Building effective, accountable and transparent institutions</li> <li>• Enhancing open, participatory, democratic processes and promoting partnerships</li> </ul> <p>Building effective, accountable and transparent institutions and enhancing participatory and democratic processes, is pursued in Greece by expanding e-governance tools, fighting corruption, protecting human rights and enhancing strong partnerships within borders, between all stakeholders, and beyond borders.</p> <p><a href="https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=571&amp;menu=3170">https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=571&amp;menu=3170</a></p>
Guatemala 2017	<p>This process made it possible to prioritize the 17 objectives, 129 of the 169 targets and 200 of the 241 indicators set out by the Agenda at the international level. The prioritization was the result of technical analysis and the will and consensus of all the actors in Guatemalan society who participated in the process of socialization, prioritization, validation and approval. With this exercise, the country has completed the set of national development priorities that lays the foundation for the country's development vision for the coming years.</p> <p>In making the commitment (SDG), we made clear our desire to fight poverty, reduce inequalities and accelerate economic growth within an environmentally sustainable development framework.</p> <p><a href="https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=356&amp;menu=3170">https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=356&amp;menu=3170</a></p>
Honduras 2017	<p>As for governance and the actors involved in the Sustainable Development Goals, Honduras has decided to set up two commissions: a high-level commission tasked with taking strategic decisions and addressing challenges that arise during the process; and a technical commission to provide advice and follow up on the decisions taken. Both commissions are made up of key actors from the public sector, the private sector, workers' and campesinos' organizations, academia, organized civil society, and municipal governments. Their main challenge is to ensure the sustained involvement of all actors.</p> <p>An analysis of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals [...] resulted in the prioritization of 13 Sustainable Development Goals and 62 indicators for 43 targets; [among which]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Modernization of the State and accountability;</li> <li>• Partnerships for development.</li> </ul> <p>Main challenges to be addressed: [one of which]</p> <p>(c) Better alignment between the role of cooperation and international financial bodies. In spite of advances resulting from their involvement, there is still room for collaboration in (i) oversight and assessment of targets and indicators; (ii) the operations of national governance mechanisms; (iii) the ongoing process of building institutional capacities and training actors; and (iv) assistance in financing sustainable development. The role of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs</p>

	<p>and International Cooperation and that of the Finance Ministry will be key in those areas.</p> <p><a href="https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=432&amp;menu=3170">https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=432&amp;menu=3170</a></p>
Hungary 2018	<p>The first Voluntary National Review of Hungary is a stocktaking exercise, an overview of where the country stands in the process of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.</p> <p>Reporting on all the 17 SDGs has provided an important opportunity to assess national policies and strategies in relation to the SDGs.</p>
Indonesia 2017	<p>The main messages conveyed by Indonesia for this VNR 2017 are as follows: (1) creating national ownership through an inclusive and participatory process, (2) systematic framework of the SDGs implementation in Indonesia, (3) Indonesia's development achievements in line with the current theme of the HLPF that covers seven interconnected sectors, (4) enabling environment of the SDGs implementation, (5) and the way forward.</p> <p>Indonesia is committed to implement SDGs to achieve a prosperous and just Indonesia, in accordance with its national development goals [...] Indonesia's challenge to achieve SDGs is enormous, in particular to ensure that no one will be left behind for its 258 million people, spread over approximately 17,000 islands, with vast differences in cultures, ethnics, religions and languages. However, the enormous challenge is not a source of concern for the Government of Indonesia, who remains confident in its efforts. Hence the challenge will be addressed to ensure sustainable development that could improve welfare and provide justice for all. Indonesia is also open and willing to cooperate with the global community toward the achievement of SDGs.</p> <p><a href="https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/14846Indonesia.pdf">https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/14846Indonesia.pdf</a></p>
Ireland 2018	<p>In order to provide a comprehensive assessment of national progress towards achieving SDGs, Ireland considered it important that its first VNR address all 17 of the Goals, in each case providing information on progress to date and outlining Ireland's policy response to the Goals and targets.</p> <p><a href="https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/18709IRELAND_2018_Main_Message_re_VNR.pdf">https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/18709IRELAND_2018_Main_Message_re_VNR.pdf</a></p>
Italy 2017	<p>The "National Sustainable Development Strategy 2017/2030" (NSDS) is organized in five core areas: People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace and Partnership.</p> <p>The area "Peace" is strictly linked with the implementation of policies of social protection and poverty reduction outlined in the area "People". It refers to the need to promote peaceful, fair and inclusive societies. The main challenges refer to global changes, particularly regarding policies aimed at the inclusion of migrants and asylum-seekers in industrialized countries, at the promotion of respect for diversity and the fight against discrimination. This goes with the implementation of measures to counter the phenomenon of organized crime, corruption and violence in all its forms. The area is organized into three strategic choices:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Promote a non-violent and inclusive society</li> <li>2. End discrimination in all its forms</li> <li>3. Ensure legality and justice</li> </ol> <p>The NSDS recognizes that global challenges can be solved only through a joint effort of the international community and that Italy has to help partner countries to reach the same Goals that have to be reached domestically.</p> <p><a href="https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/16285Italy_Main_Message_HLPF_2017.pdf">https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/16285Italy_Main_Message_HLPF_2017.pdf</a></p>

Jamaica 2018	<p>Vision 2030 Jamaica represents the country's commitment to good governance, democratic principles and participation of the citizenry in national development. This commitment has been extended to the 2030 Agenda, through national and sector specific consultations with stakeholders to identify and align the country's development priorities. Localization of the SDGs is framed in Vision 2030 Jamaica, resulting in a seamless integration; additionally there is a 91.3 per cent alignment between both.</p> <p><a href="https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/18857JAMAICA_VN_R_Key_Messages_MAY_18_UNDESA.pdf">https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/18857JAMAICA_VN_R_Key_Messages_MAY_18_UNDESA.pdf</a></p>
Japan 2017	<p>By restructuring the SDGs in light of Japan's national context, it has identified eight priority areas among the goals and targets of the SDGs on which Japan should focus: <i>[one of which]</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Achieving Peaceful, Safe and Secure Societies (related SDG: 16)</li> </ul> <p><a href="https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/15599JAPANMain_Message.pdf">https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/15599JAPANMain_Message.pdf</a></p>
Jordan 2017	<p>In addition to the above, a number of important national strategies, plans and enabling laws have been developed, putting in place a strong policy environment for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, including: the Comprehensive National Plan for Human Rights (2016–2025); the National Strategy for Women; the National Strategy for People with Disabilities; the National Strategy for Human Resource Development (2016–2025); the National Strategy for Reproductive Health/Family Planning (2013–2018); the Jordanian National Action Plan to Implement United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325; the National Strategy for Youth (under development); the National Climate Change Policy (2013–2020); the National Strategy and Action Plan for Sustainable Consumption and Production (2016–2025); the National Policy and Strategy for Science, Technology and Innovation (2013–2017); and the National Plan for Green Growth, among others.</p> <p>The report will briefly touch upon key areas including: <i>[among which]</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Justice, participation and enhancement of the judicial environment</li> </ul> <p><a href="https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=344&amp;menu=3170">https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=344&amp;menu=3170</a></p>
Kiribati 2018	<p>Gender-based violence and wider gender issues are a key social and economic issue.</p> <p><a href="https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/19049KIRIBATI_KDP_MidTerm_Review_and_VNR_Key_Messages_revised.pdf">https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/19049KIRIBATI_KDP_MidTerm_Review_and_VNR_Key_Messages_revised.pdf</a></p>
Latvia 2018	<p>Latvia will focus on areas in which progress must be accelerated. Latvia's sustainable development challenges are concentrated in two sectors: <i>[among which]</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Reducing Income and Opportunity Inequality</li> </ol> <p><a href="https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/19313LATVIA_main_messages.pdf">https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/19313LATVIA_main_messages.pdf</a></p>
Lebanon 2018	<p>The government is cognizant that none of the SDGs can advance without “peace, justice, and strong institutions”, through cross sectoral efforts along the public sector modernization and good governance initiatives currently underway and the access to information law voted last year. Improving government statistics will</p>

	<p>definitely constitute a crosscutting reform that facilitates mapping SDGs and targets and will ultimately serve to improve policy making.</p> <p><a href="https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/18713Lebanon_VNR_2018_Main_Messages.pdf">https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/18713Lebanon_VNR_2018_Main_Messages.pdf</a></p>
Luxembourg 2017	<p>Tackle social exclusion, which is a political priority, through existing synergies and take action in the fields of social inclusion, integration, education and employment. Ensure that every resident can participate fully in society and engage in gainful employment.</p> <p><a href="https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=370&amp;menu=3170">https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=370&amp;menu=3170</a></p>
Monaco 2017	<p>It has also made international commitments, providing aid for the least developed countries aimed at addressing key issues such as health, education, empowerment and gender parity under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.</p> <p><a href="https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=366&amp;menu=3170">https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=366&amp;menu=3170</a></p>
Montenegro 2016	<p>Guided by national needs that were identified against the analysis of the lack of national development and needs in responding to the challenges that have been introduced by 2030 United Nations Agenda on Sustainable Development, the central place in new NSSD is given to determination of the strategic goals and measures as to define answers on how to achieve sustainable management of four groups of national resources – human capital, social capital and values, natural capital and economic capital, as well as on how to achieve good governance and sustainable financing for sustainable development of Montenegro in period until 2030.</p> <p><a href="https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=80&amp;menu=3170">https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=80&amp;menu=3170</a></p>
Namibia 2018	<p>The following are the key milestones and corresponding challenges to date: <i>[one of which]</i> Promote and build effective, accountable and inclusive public institutions for efficient governance and public service delivery.</p> <p><a href="https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=1071&amp;menu=3170">https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=1071&amp;menu=3170</a></p>
Netherlands 2017	<p>The Netherlands is committed to formulating policies that defend the interests of the poorest and most vulnerable groups and urges other countries to do the same. The SDGs fit well into the ongoing discussion on the importance of policy coherence for sustainable development, which has been central to Dutch development discourse.</p> <p>Based on the available data, it is clear that the Netherlands is doing well on many SDG targets and indicators: <i>[one of which]</i></p> <p>The Dutch have confidence in their institutions. A majority of the population feels safe in their own neighbourhood, the number of reported crimes is decreasing, and corruption levels are low (SDG 16).</p> <p><a href="https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/15203Netherlands.pdf">https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/15203Netherlands.pdf</a></p>
Nigeria 2017	<p>The country has advanced on curbing illicit financial flow and asset recovery which will enhance effort on resource mobilization for implementation of the SDGs.</p> <p><a href="https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=524&amp;menu=3170">https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=524&amp;menu=3170</a></p>

Norway 2016	<p>Challenges that have been identified at the national level include: <i>[among which are]</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eliminating all forms of violence against women and girls</li> <li>• Reducing all forms of violence and related death rates and combating organized crime.</li> </ul> <p>Gender equality and rights for women and girls, access to education and health for all, and a human rights-based approach, are crucial factors for reducing extreme poverty and creating equal opportunities for all, including people with disabilities, indigenous peoples, and marginalized groups [...]. Examples of Norwegian priorities and partnerships in these areas include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working in partnerships, including with the private sector, Every Woman Every Child, the vaccine alliance GAVI, and the Global Partnership on Education (GPE)</li> <li>• Engaging in partnerships under the United Nations, World Bank and other organizations to strengthen women's rights and gender equality in economic, social and political life, which is crucial for economic development and growth.</li> </ul> <p>The governance targets embedded in SDG 16 on peace, justice, and strong institutions represent an important innovation and pillar of the 2030 Agenda and they were a key topic in the debate on the SDGs in the Storting in November 2015. Goal 16 is cross cutting and helps integrate the social, economic and environmental dimensions with stability and security issues through its focus on the root causes of poverty, hunger and migration. Peace, justice and freedoms are key elements. In 2015, a white paper on human rights, and another on global security challenges, provided important policy guidance in this regard. Norway will continue to support peace, conflict prevention, and reconciliation efforts – which we see as a crucial foreign policy supplement to humanitarian and development assistance – including in situations of fragility and vulnerability.</p> <p>Examples of Norway's international engagement include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chair of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee (AHLC) for assistance to the Palestinians. Facilitator, together with Cuba, in the Colombian peace process. Cooperation with the African Union in support of African peacekeeping and capacity-building.</li> <li>• Support to international governance and institution-building to promote transparency and accountability, counteract corruption and capital flight, and consolidate the rule of law.</li> <li>• Work with multilateral, regional and bilateral partners to promote democracy and relevant human rights norms and standards, including by supporting the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and engaging in the Council of Europe.</li> </ul> <p><a href="https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=69&amp;menu=3170">https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=69&amp;menu=3170</a></p>
Panama 2017	<p>Panama 2030 establishes as priority Goals: <i>[four, one of which is]</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (d) Promote just, peaceful and inclusive societies (Goal 16).</li> </ul> <p>Participation and interaction</p> <p>Through the Social Affairs Office, the Government held three consultations with public institutions, the National Assembly, women's groups, indigenous peoples, people of African descent, young people, academics, entrepreneurs and aid agencies, in order to conduct an interactive strategy dialogue on what steps to take at national level to promote the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The consultation began a convergence of the assistance agendas of the bodies of the United Nations system, the Social Affairs Office and Government and non-governmental counterparts.</p> <p><a href="https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=340&amp;menu=3170">https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=340&amp;menu=3170</a></p>

Peru 2017	<p>The voluntary national report describes the progress that Peru has made in implementing the 2030 Agenda and building its vision of the future. Achieving the desired results requires the Peruvian State to meet the multiple challenges involved in translating the proposed outline for the future into action in the national context. That includes the process of ensuring that individuals and institutions in the country genuinely understand the need to guarantee full enjoyment of fundamental rights, the need to achieve national sustainable development targets, and the way in which those targets are connected with the Sustainable Development Goals.</p> <p><a href="https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=408&amp;menu=3170">https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=408&amp;menu=3170</a></p>
Poland 2018	<p>The adoption of the 2030 Agenda by the United Nations in 2015 coincided with the broad public debate in Poland on defining a new approach to development policy and the need to identify and give new impulses to development [<i>some priorities listed</i>]</p> <p>Achieving the above priorities will be supported by strengthening the efficiency and effectiveness of state and its institutions (i.e. better quality of the enacted law, efficient administration, strong system of strategic management of development processes) (SDG 16).</p> <p>We focus on cooperation, partnership and joint responsibility of public entities, business and citizens for the course of development processes.</p> <p><a href="https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=804&amp;menu=3170">https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=804&amp;menu=3170</a></p>
Portugal 2017	<p>The 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) have therefore changed the way we approach development by [...] iii) having a much greater potential for tackling inequality and promoting human rights as a cross-cutting concern across all SDGs;</p> <p>Portugal played an active role in drafting the document adopted at the Summit, including in the establishment of the common position to be taken by the European Union (EU), particularly in: (i) recognizing the need to give more attention to issues pertaining to peace, security and good governance, with an emphasis on the situation of fragile States; [...] and (iii) integrating a strong human rights dimension that tackles inequalities, while paying particular attention to the gender equality issues.</p> <p>On the other hand, global challenges such as extreme poverty and inequality, conflicts, migration, terrorism, climate change, pandemics have, in the end, a direct impact on Europe, which is why sustainability in the region cannot be examined separately from its external dimension. The commitment to sustainable development across borders shall be matched with efforts to ensure the internal sustainability of the European Union. It is therefore crucial that the different actors incorporate and align their strategies, programmes and initiatives to the SDGs.</p> <p>Agenda into national strategies, plans and policies is organized around the thematic areas identified as 5Ps: [...] Peace – emphasizes the determination to foster peaceful, just and inclusive societies which are free from fear and violence, while recalling that there can be no sustainable development without peace and no peace without sustainable development;</p> <p>One of the State’s fundamental tasks is to promote equality between women and men. Non-discrimination on grounds of gender identity or sexual orientation is a fundamental principle of the Constitution of the Portuguese Republic and a structural element of the democratic rule of law. There is a clear obligation on any government to pursue active gender equality policies, – a duty built on an obligation that applies to society in general. The gender equality dimension should therefore be taken into account whenever any public policy is devised and carried</p>

	<p>out. Equality between women and men is in itself an imperative and a social objective; it is essential to fully experience citizenship and as such is a prerequisite for building a more modern, fair and equitable society, as well as for achieving truly sustainable development that fully respects human dignity.</p> <p>Within a prosperity framework, the principle of economic, social and territorial cohesion, widely recognized as the new paradigm of territorial development, attempts to tackle social and economic inequalities, as well as regional disparities, while being firmly based on the development of strategies to promote social justice as a normative principle associated with equity or equal opportunities.</p> <p><a href="https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=464&amp;menu=3170">https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=464&amp;menu=3170</a></p>
Qatar 2017	<p>QNV 2030 further calls for the establishment of a society of justice and equality, the protection of public and personal freedoms as well as values and traditions, and ensuring security, stability and equal opportunities. The vision is built on four pillars, namely [...]</p> <p>Second: Social development, which aims to develop a just and secure society based on good morals and social welfare, and capable of interacting with other societies and playing an important role in the global partnership for development, as well as enhancing Qatar's role at the regional and international levels. Social development further aims to secure basic needs, ensure equal opportunities for citizens and empower women to play an effective role in all aspects of life, especially their participation in social and political decision-making.</p> <p>In terms of social development, the first NDS aimed to develop an integrated methodology that takes into account the well-being of the people of Qatar and creates a safe, secure and stable society that establishes cohesive families with moral, religious and humanitarian values and an effective social protection system for all, ensuring sufficient income to lead a healthy dignified life in a secure and stable society under the principles of justice, equality and the rule of law.</p> <p>With regard to Qatar's foreign policy, the second sustainable development strategy calls for peaceful solutions to conflicts, renunciation of wars, social justice and good governance, combating poverty, promoting transparency, accountability and cooperation, enhancing means for implementing and revitalizing global partnership for sustainable development, and expanding partnership between State institutions, civil society and the private sector. It also calls for activating voluntary social action and community participation, increasing national development efforts that support peace and security at the regional and international levels.</p> <p><a href="https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/14882Qatar_English.pdf">https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/14882Qatar_English.pdf</a></p>
Republic of Korea 2016	<p>The success of the Republic of Korea is not only about economic growth but also about the rapid reduction of poverty and inequality and the transition to democracy. Consistent efforts to further develop an inclusive society, which include the successful economic and social policy responses to the Asian Economic Crisis in 1997 and the Global Economic Crisis in 2008, are particularly notable features of the ROK's development experience.</p> <p><a href="https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=67&amp;menu=3170">https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=67&amp;menu=3170</a></p>
Samoa 2016	<p>Goals 16 and 17 are crucial to determining the means of implementation through meaningful and consolidated partnerships as well as the institutional development reforms that will continue in order to improve on accountability.</p>

	<p>Community development sectoral outcomes include the importance of addressing violence against women and children through more socially and culturally acceptable approaches.</p> <p>Goal 16 – Governance</p> <p>The SDS has a strong focus on promoting governance across all 4 priority areas and across all 14 Key Outcomes Good-governance principles reflected in the SDS include: more appropriate social &amp; cultural practices, more efficient, effective, affordable, honest, transparent and apolitical public service focused on clear priorities, strengthened law &amp; order and community security measures appropriately applied, appropriate decentralization of government administration with enhanced scope for engagement with the public, the application of standards and improved use of research &amp; development focussing on priority needs and identification of those most in need.</p> <p><a href="https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=77&amp;menu=3170">https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=77&amp;menu=3170</a></p>
Sierra Leone 2016	<p>Other challenges include management of regional conflicts that require member countries' participation, such as responding to cross-border organized crimes; terrorism; piracy; drugs and human trafficking; and illicit financial flows ripping Africa of scarce development resources. Great attention is required to overcoming youth unemployment in pursuing social stability.</p> <p><a href="https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=72&amp;menu=3170">https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=72&amp;menu=3170</a></p>
Slovakia 2018	<p>The six national priorities integrate the 17 Sustainable Development Goals along with country-specific objectives. Slovakia's VNR will present the country's main challenges within each priority, existing policies and good practises to tackle these difficulties, and finally, a review of how Slovakia endorses the outlined priorities internationally.</p> <p>Key area five underlines the significance of rule of law, democracy and security for Agenda 2030, once again in the Slovak context. It supports SDGs 5 and 16, and moreover, it emphasises the role of strong institutions and data-based governance.</p> <p><a href="https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=925&amp;menu=3170">https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=925&amp;menu=3170</a></p>
Sri Lanka 2018	<p>Peace</p> <p>The government seeks to build a peaceful, stable, reconciled and prosperous Sri Lanka based on a three-pillared strategy of strengthening democracy, reconciliation, and economic development, with the participation of all stakeholders, as reflected in the Peacebuilding Priority Plan as well.</p> <p><a href="https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=998&amp;menu=3170">https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=998&amp;menu=3170</a></p>
Sudan 2018	<p>Peace and stability are prevailing through justice and the rule of law. This will support implementation of Agenda 2030 and the SDGs, and to harness the potentials of leaving no one behind in peace and leaving no one behind in development.</p> <p>Peace and stability will create opportunities for communities affected by the war to recover and develop, and to transform from relief and humanitarian assistance to rehabilitation and development.</p> <p><a href="https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=1046&amp;menu=3170">https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=1046&amp;menu=3170</a></p>

Tajikistan 2017	<p>Tajikistan is positioning well in successfully implementing the SDGs, given the experience of Tajikistan in achieving MDGs, as well as recent adoption of the NDS 2030 (with the efforts to align NDS with the SDGs). In line with international obligations of Tajikistan in achieving SDGs, the NDS 2030 envisages to respect the principle of “inclusion” by mainstreaming needs of all population groups (based on gender, age, disability, social status, place of living, ethnicity etc.), as well as ensuring their representation.</p> <p>Issues related to unequal access of women and men to material (land, finances etc.) and non-material (education, health etc.) resources remain sensitive. In order to promote gender equity, it is essential to harmonize goals and targets across adopted social-economic and gender strategies and programmes.</p> <p><a href="https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=539&amp;menu=3170">https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=539&amp;menu=3170</a></p>
Thailand 2017	<p>Goal 16: SEP inspired initiatives such as alternative development and the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-Custodial Measures for Women Offenders – the Bangkok Rules, have been identified as measures to promote and support peaceful society. Thailand has the “zero tolerance for human trafficking” policy and continues efforts in prevention, protection, prosecution and partnership. On combating corruption, another national agenda, several legal measures have been enacted and amended. The establishment of Criminal Court for Corruption and Misconduct Offence in 2016, for example, will help reduce the time to finalize such cases more quickly.</p> <p><a href="https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/15604Thailand_.pdf">https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/15604Thailand_.pdf</a></p>
Turkey 2016	<p>In the context of new development agenda, Turkey believes that continuing its human centred development approach which has the main axis of equality and sustainability is crucial. Fighting poverty for ensuring an honourable life quality for everyone is Turkey’s utmost priority. Additionally, peaceful society, ensuring rule of law and good governance are enablers of our goals and targets and support a level playing field for all. Turkey takes the governance and strong institutional capacity as the 4th pillar of sustainable development. Without them, it is almost impossible to realize goals and targets. Therefore, partnerships for capacity-building and empowering respective institutions should have a high priority among all.</p> <p><a href="https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=78&amp;menu=3170">https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=78&amp;menu=3170</a></p>
Uganda 2016	<p>[...] the ambitious and comprehensive nature of the 2030 Agenda requires further enhancement of national capacity on how best to steer inclusive development across time, sector, and regions of the country. Key among these are: strengthening institutions; financing mechanisms; rallying the private sector, civil society, citizens and other partners towards implementation; and public private partnerships.</p> <p>To strengthen implementation and improve institutional functionality, Uganda has undertaken a number of reforms; including, the establishment of the A Prime Minister’s Delivery Unit, the Government Evaluation Facility, institutional coordination mechanisms, the issuance of certificates of compliance of the national and budgets to the NDP, certificate of compliance to gender and equity, and is gradually shifting from output-based to programme-based budgeting.</p> <p><a href="https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=76&amp;menu=3170">https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=76&amp;menu=3170</a></p>
United Arab Emirates 2018	<p>The United Arab Emirates has one of the best performing public sectors in the world, one that operates in an open and transparent way, underpinned by a</p>

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	<p>systematic performance framework, a highly skilled civil service and efficient and innovative mechanisms for the delivery of public services.</p> <p><a href="https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=1125&amp;menu=3170">https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=1125&amp;menu=3170</a></p>
Zimbabwe 2017	<p>Strong partnerships are essential to progress on the SDGs: In view of the comprehensive nature of the SDGs, strong partnerships play a vital role in SDG implementation. The donor community provided support to the tune of \$800 million in 2016 somewhat easing the tight fiscal situation in the country.</p> <p>Next Step: <i>[One of which]</i> Capacity-building support targeting civil society to enhance and broaden participation in the implementation of the SDGs.</p> <p><a href="https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=503&amp;menu=3170">https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&amp;type=30022&amp;nr=503&amp;menu=3170</a></p>

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